

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: P. A. Billing-Medel., *et al.*

Serial No.: (Not yet assigned)

Filed:

For: REAGENTS AND METHODS
USEFUL FOR DETECTING
DISEASES OF THE
GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT

Examiner: (Not yet assigned)

Group Art Unit : (Not yet assigned)

Attorney Docket No.: 6068.US.D1

Date: December 14, 2001

EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EL507388169US

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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee Service with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Date of Deposit: December 19, 2001

Wanda E. Smith 12/19/01
Wanda E. Smith Date

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The following amendment accompanies the Divisional Patent Application of U.S. Serial No. 09/049,698. Before beginning an examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please amend the application as indicated below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, please replace the first paragraph entitled: Cross-Reference to Related Application.

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application, Serial No. 09/049,698, filed March 27, 1998, which is a continuation -in-part of U.S. application Serial No. 08/828,856 filed March 31, 1997, now abandoned, from which priority is claimed pursuant to 35 U.S. C. ¶120 and which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please CANCEL, WITHOUT PREJUDICE, 1-6, 11, 15, 17 and 18 of the parent file,
Application No. 09/049,698.

Remarks

Claims 1-6, 11, 15, 17 and 18 have been cancelled. Upon entry of this amendment,
claims 7-10, 12-14 and 16 will be pending.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments presented above add no new matter
and request their entry into the record.

Conclusion

Applicants believe claims 7-10, 12-14 and 16 are in condition for allowance and such
action is requested.



23492

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Respectfully submitted,
P. A. Billing-Medel, et al.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mimi C. Goller', written over a horizontal line.

Mimi C. Goller
Registration No. 39,046
Attorney for Applicants

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**REQUEST TO USE COMPUTER READABLE FORM
FROM A PRIORITY APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The computer readable form in this application is identical with that submitted in the parent application, U.S. Serial No. 08/828,856, the specification of which was filed on March 31, 1997. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.821(e), Applicants request that the same computer readable form, which was submitted in the parent application be used as the computer readable form for the instant application. Applicants understand that the Patent and Trademark Office will make the necessary change in application number and filing date for the computer readable form that will be used for the instant application. A paper copy of the Sequence Listing is included in the specification. A statement to support the filings and submissions in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.821-1.825 is also included.



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